

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 NEA-10 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

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INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION BERLIN UNN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMCONGEN HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION NATO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUCHAREST 2274

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, RO, UR, KN

SUBJECT: KIM IL-SUNG ARRIVAL IN BUCHAREST

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REF: (A) BUCHAREST 2205 (NOTAL); (B) BUCHAREST 2206 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY. FIRST DAY OF PRESIDENT KIM IL-SUNG'S PARTY-GOVERNMENT VISIT TO ROMANIA WAS MARKED BY DEMONSTRATIVE, TUMULTUOUS WELCOME DELIBERATELY GENERATED BY GOR TO MATCH WARMTH ACCORDED CEAUSESCU DURING HIS 1971 VISIT TO NORTH KOREA. CEAUSESCU'S TOAST AT FIRST DAY'S BANQUET, WHILE GIVING NOD TO NORTH KOREA'S "CONSTRUCTIVE POLICY" FOR "PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION" OF KOREA, DEALT MAINLY WITH TRIED-AND-TRUE ROMANIAN BOILERPLATE AND DUCKED ISSUE SKILLFULLY. THE NORTH KOREAN PRESIDENT DEVOTED MUCH OF TOAST TO KOREA'S UNIFICATION IN FORCEFUL BUT AMBIGUOUS FASHION, ASSERTING THAT IF UN FORCES PULL OUT, THEN "IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO MAINTAIN PEACE IN KOREA." END SUMMARY.

2. ROMANIAN WELCOME MOUNTED FOR KIM MAY 23 WAS ON SCALE UNPRECEDENTED IN RECENT YEARS HERE. MFA TOLD VISITING US NEWSMAN GOR INTENDED THAT IT BE ALMOST AS OVERWHELMING AS WHAT TITO WOULD RATE. IN ANY CASE, GOR CLEARLY PULLED OUT ALL THE STOPS FOR PERSONAGE WHO, AS SEEN HERE, REPRESENTS TOUGH, DISCIPLINED INDEPENDENT COMMUNIST PARTY ABLE TO KEEP ITS DISTANCE BETWEEN PEKING AND MOSCOW AND THEREFORE VERY IMPORTANT TO ROMANIA'S OWN DESIGN.

3. KIM WAS MET BY CONTINUOUSLY CHEERING CROWDS AT AIRPORT AND EN ROUTE TO RESIDENCE, ASSIDUOUSLY MUSTERED FROM BUCHAREST FACTORIES AND OFFICES SEVERAL HOURS BEFORE HIS ARRIVAL. CLAUQUE AT AIRPORT, IN OPINION OF VETERAN ROMANIAN OBSERVERS, EXCEEDED EVEN THAT OF NIXON'S 1969 ARRIVAL; ELSEWHERE CROWD ENTHUSIASM WAS LESS SPONTANEOUS BUT CHEERLEADERS WERE ACTIVE AND NUMBERS MASSIVE-- ONLY DEGAULLE'S ARRIVAL IN 1960'S TOPPED KIM'S OVERALL, SOME OPINED. AMIDST SUCH THRONG, KIM WAS AWARDED KEYS TO CITY AND, VISIBLY GRINNING, DANCED THE ROMANIAN HORA WITH WIFE, CEAUSESCU AND SPOUSE, AND ROMANIAN YOUTH AND FOLKLORE GROUPS ON ONE OF CITY'S MAIN THOROUGHFARES.

4. CEAUSESCU MANAGED TO HEW TO STANDARD ROMANIAN FOREIGN POLICY POSITIONS DURING RATHER INNOCUOUS TOAST AT GLITTERING STATE DINNER HOSTED IN PRESIDENTIAL PALACE, DEVOTING ONLY ONE SENTENCE (ABOVE) TO "PEACEFUL" KOREAN UNIFICATION. BOTH PRESIDENTS PREDICTABLY EXCHANGED REFERENCES TO PRINCIPLES OF SOVEREIGNTY AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INDEPENDENCE, WITH KIM OUTDOING CEAUSESCU IN UNDERLINING NEED FOR "ASSURING POLITICAL SOVEREIGNTY, CONSOLIDATION OF ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE, AND AUTONOMY IN CONSTRUCTION OF THE ECONOMY", AS WELL AS "NO LONGER FOLLOWING BLINDLY LARGE COUNTRIES" BUT RATHER "ACTING INDEPENDENTLY." KIM, IN FAIRLY LENGTHY SECTION ON KOREAN PROBLEM, STRESSED "STRAINED SITUATION" WAS "BEING AGGRAVATED" AND "DANGER OF WAR WAS GROWING" (SCINTEIA, MAY 23 TEXT), "IMPASSE" OF SOUTH KOREAN "RULERS", KIM STATED THAT IF UN

FORCES ARE WITHDRAWN AND MANEUVERS TO CREATE TWO KOREAS AND TO SUPPORT ROK "RULERS" CEASE, THEN "IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO MAINTAIN THE PEACE IN KOREA." SEEMINGLY MOST BELLICOSE NOTE WAS REFERENCE TO "GREATER AND MORE RUINOUS DEFEATS" TO BE SUFFERED BY "FORCES" BLOCKING UNIFICATION UNLESS ABOVE CONDITIONS MET.

5. MFA AND OTHER ROMANIAN SOURCES HAVE STILL NOT GIVEN US MUCH FIRMER INKLING WHERE NORTH KOREANS ARE BOUND AFTER BUCHAREST. DEPARTURE IS SET FOR MONDAY, MAY 26, AT 1010. KIM IL-SUNG HOLDS TALKS TODAY WITH CEAUSESCU ("IMPORTANT FOR SOCIALIST UNITY" ACCORDING TO MEDIA) FOLLOWED BY GALA, THEN MASS MEETING MAY 24 IN PALACE HALL., CONTINUING LAVISH GOR ATTENTION.
VIETS

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